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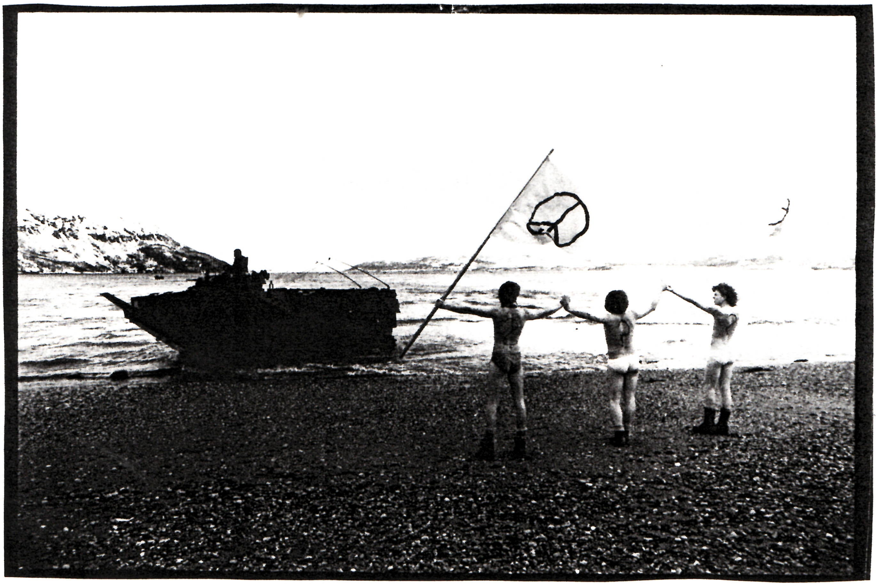
WORLD-WIDE NEWS FROM NORTHERN NORWAY

No. 4 MAY 1992

Nude Resistance When NATO invaded Norway



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EKOMEDIA, P.O. Box 98, N - 9160 VANNVÅG, NORWAY

TEAMWORK 92

Nude Resistance When NATO Invaded Norway

On the 20th of March 1992 NATO invaded the northern parts of Norway with 140 ships, 270 planes, 70 helicopters and 45.000 soldiers. "Exercise Teamwork 92" was the name of this operation. A coalition of war resisters and environmentalists gathered in the "Campaign Against Teamwork" and took action against this NATO exercise. When landing, US Marine Corps encountered restistance. Some naked Teamwork-resisters tried to stop them.

resistance

Exercise Teamwork started in the north east of the Atlantic and the North Sea in the beginning of March and moved along the coast of Norway. On the 20th. of March forces from the USA, Great Britain and the Netherlands landed in Norway.

Resistance

The Teamwork exercise provoked a lot of people in Northern Norway, not only war resisters. The environmental organisation "Natur og Ungdom" (Nature and Youth) demanded the exercise cancelled. The "Campaign Against Teamwork" has also supported this demand. Both in 1988 and in 1990 the Teamwork exercises encountered massive resistance and civil disobedience several places in Norway. Harbours were blocked when allied port calls were made. In 1990 the exercise was heavily reduced as most of the US forces were moved to Saudi Arabia. The "Campaign Against Teamwork" was formed by Norwegian antimilitarist - and environmental organistions before the Teamwork 90 exercise.

Also the Teamwork 92 exercise encountered resistance. As US Marine Corps landed in Ullsfjord in Northern Norway, a group of Teamwork resisters tried to delay them. The "Campaign Aganist Teamwork" demonstrated with banners, megaphones and flags. One of the amphibious vessels had to stop and some of the Teamwork resisters climbed on top of it with a huge banner.

Nuclear Weapons

As the Teamwork exercise took place, the NATO alliance has no actual enemy. The Warsaw Pact era is brought to its end and the Soviet Union is smashed in pieces. In this situation NATO strikes with one of the most extensive military exercises in the northern areas so far. Only the Teamwork 88 exercise has been bigger. In addition, the exercise included more than 100 nuclear weapons on ships at the coast of Norway. After several serious nuclear accidents with Soviet submarines and, not at least, the collision between an American and a Russian submarine in the Barentz Sea in the middle of February, the people in Northern Norway no longer trust nuclear technology at seas.

USS Dwight D. Eisenhower

The American aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower carried most of the nuclear weapons included in the Teamwork 92 exercise. This ship carries 100 nuclear weapons. The planes carried by USS Eisenhower can "deliver" B43, B57, B61 nuclear bombs

TEAMWORK 92

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and nuclear depth bombs. There are several B43 bombs and each of these bombs has an explosive force corresponding to 1,000 kilotons of TNT. By relating this nuclear potential with the well known Hiroshima bomb, one can get an impression of the explosive force represented by these B43 bombs. The Hiroshima bomb was at 13 kilotons of TNT. Each of the B43 bombs carried by USS Eisenhower has an explosive force more than 75 times larger than the Hiro-shima bomb, detonated in Japan in 1944.

> ***The Hiroshima bomb was at 13 kilotons of TNT. Each of the B43 bombs carried by USS Eisenhower has an explosive force more than 75 times larger than the Hiro-shima bomb, detonated in Japan in 1944.***

In addition to the US aircraft carrier, three US attack submarines, five US transport ships and one British aircraft carrier were expected to carry nuclear weapons when participating in the Teamwork 92 exercise. The US attack submarines were expected to carry several nuclear armed cruise missiles called "Tomahawk".

Dangerous for the fishery

During the Teamwork exercise, USS Eisenhower was situated at Vestfjorden, one of the largest spawning areas for cod fish in the world. The exercise took place exactly in the same period as the cod fishing season in Vestfjorden - the Lofot fishery. The organisation "Norges Kystfiskarlag" ("Norwegian Coast Fishers' Association") was seriously worried about this situation. "*-We look upon this as a constant threat, and we don't believe that the authorities have any alert preparations in case of an accident*", Norges Kystfiskarlag says. "*-Vest-fjorden is full of spawning cod, and it will have serious consequenses for the ecological system if an accident occurs*", they say.

Continued next page

TEAMWORK 92

NATO and the Sami people

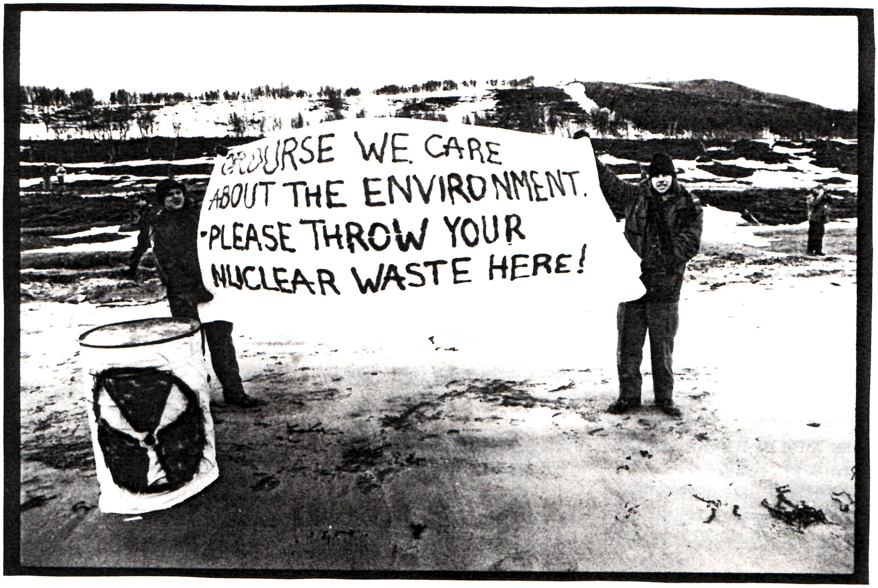
The Sami people is an indigenous people living from reindeer, fishing and smallholding in the northern parts of Norway. Huge parts of the field operations in the Teamwork 92 exercise took place in Sami areas. Especially the landing operations. During recent years a bad relationship has developed between the Sami people and NATO. Since the beginning of the 80´s a lot of NATO-infrastructure has been built in Northern Norway and many of these are situated in traditional Sami areas. The Sami Parliament´s (Samediggi/Sametinget) protest has not been considered when military infrastructure has been built. During Teamwork 92 and previous allied exercises, there has been made serious damage to Sami landscape. Military vehicles har caused terrain damages which nature needs 200 years to repair. The resistance against NATO is especially strong within the Sami people along the coast. The Sami people has never had any military organisation, and their weapons have never had any purpose but hunting. "*-We have a responsibility on behalf of our ancestors to fight against militarism and war,*" a member of the Sami Parliament stated, protesting the building of NATO infrastructure in Norway.

Exercising for Desert Storm II

Many of the US Marine Corps amphibious vessels were painted like desert sand when landing in Northern Norway in the Teamwork 92 exercise. A great number of the US Marine Corps soldiers participating were Desert Storm veterans, too. This is not accidental. Because of the extreme climate conditions in Northern Norway, exercises like Teamwork 92 are considered to be extraordinary relevant for campaigns like Desert Storm. The enormous NATO exercises in Norway during the 80´s made the Gulf war possible. Also the British forces consider these exercises to be relevant for military operations other places in the world. A proud British captain said that the NATO exercises in the 70´s helped Great Britain a lot in the Falkland war.

resistance.

TEAMWORK 92


OF COURSE WE CARE
ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT.
-PLEASE THROW YOUR
NUCLEAR WASTE HERE!

TEAMWORK

Nuclear Power in a Fragmented Union

The former Soviet Union is one of the largest producers of nuclear power, next to the US and France. In the Soviet Union there were 46 reactors, and until last summer there were plans for expanding to 69 reactors. Now these reactors are inherited by the independent republics of the former Soviet Union.

The two largest reactors in the world are situated in *Lithuania*. These reactors were taken in use in 1985 and 1987. They are RMBK reactors, a similar kind of reactors as the Chernobyl reactor. The constructors claim that the RMBKs are far more safe and that they have better safety systems.

Ukraine has inherited a huge part of the nuclear power plants from the Soviet Union. Now Ukraine is responsible for the Chernobyl plant, both the reactor, the evacuation zone and the beton sarcophagus surrounding the wrecked reactor. Last year cracks were discovered in the beton. In October 1991 a fire started in a reactor in Chernobyl. -*"We were only two seconds from another Chernobyl accident"*, says Anatolij V. Volkov, leader of the White Russian Parliament´s Chernobyl Commission. Volkov himself was present when the fire occurred.

In *Russia* 28 reactors are producing electricity. 11 of these are RMBK reactors. In Tsjeljabinsk several old reactors are situated. They are producing plutonium for nuclear weapons.

Kazakhstan has inherited an old breeder reactor. *Armenia* has to VVER reactors which are taken out of use. There are plans for starting these reactors again.

The inheritance from Chernobyl

The disagreements on causes and impacts of the Chernobyl accident has made some people talk about *two accidents* - one accident with dramatic consequences, and one almost without consequences for environment and health.

In May 1991 a report from IAEA, the *International Atomic Energy Agency*, was published. According to IAEA the Chernobyl disaster was no disaster. The report said that the Chernobyl accident had not caused health damage that directly can be connected to radioactivity. IAEA claims that the health effects were caused by malnutrition, and that the malnutrition was caused by people´s attempts to avoid radioactive food.

Inhabitants evacuated from a 30 km zone around the power plant were *not examined.* Neither were the health impacts among the 600,000 people who cleaned up after the accident investigated. *More than 500,000 people who were evacuated from the area close by the accident were not included in the report.*

The IAEA report deviates considerably from other statistics made after the Chernobyl disaster. Cancer among children is *ten times more frequent* now than in 1986. The leukemia rate among children in White Russia is three times higher.

Victor Chernousenko, a doctor from Ukraine, expects between *5,000 and 7,000 of the people* cleaning up after the accident to be dead already. He presumes that 80% of the workers who were exposed to most radiation when the accident occurred are dead.

An area of 122 km^2 around the power plant is described as *"heavily polluted"*. 17 million people live in this zone and 5 millions of these are children. Independent investigations show that 50% of these have serious health problems and many of them has developed cancer. Anatolij Volkov expects 50% of these children to die sooner or later, because of the radiation.

What was the cause?

Some years after the disaster, there has also become disagreements on the causes of the accident. It has been supposed that the operators at the plant broke most of the safety rules, which made several safety systems stop working.

The operators explain things from another point of view. In a letter to IAEA´s safety group, INSAG, Anatolijj Dyatlov, who was a supervising operator when the accident occurred, said that the operators had been given incorrect information on the socalled *"positive void reactor co-efficient"*. This means that this kind of reactors in certain situations suddenly can turn *out of control.*

The official policy now, is to blame the operators less. One has started to realise that *defects in the reactor system* may have been more important factors. Last summer a commission formed by the Supreme Soviet made a report on the Chernobyl catastrophe. According to the investigation, one of the main causes behind the accident was a bad quality reactor construction, including limited opportunities for control and bad safety systems.

Even IAEA has started reconsidering their theory about the accident. So far they have been speaking with the same tongue as the official Soviet policy.

VVER reactors

An urgent problem for the new republics in the former Soviet Union is the handling of the VVER reactors. Ukraine has 12, Russia has 13. Such reactors also exist in Germany, Czechoslovakia, Finland and Bulgaria. The problem with these reactors is that the reactor shell experiences problems because of neutron bombardments. The safety systems are not to a necessary extent independent, and leakages often occur.

Brought To Light

Tsjeljabinsk

The plutonium production for nuclear weapons in Tsjeljabinsk has made the place one of the most radioactive polluted areas in the world. All the five reactors producing plutonium were closed in 1990. From 1948 to 1951 the high radioactive waste was dumped in the Techa river. In 1951 radioactivity was traced in the North East passage and the dumping was stopped. Instead the waste was dumped in the Karachaj Sea. After a few decades there were 120 million curie in the sea. This is 2,5 times more than the Chernobyl fallout. According to the American researcher Thomas Cochran, the radiation by the sea is 600 Roentgen - enough to kill a man within an hour.

From 1948 to 1960 Tsjeljabinsk has released 1 billion curie, which is 20 times more than the fallout from the Chernobyl.

According to doctor Alexander Shylyakter, the workers at Tsjeljabinsk have been exposed to more radioactivity than the population in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

(Source: Nytt fra Natur og Ungdom 1/92)

Environmental Action Across the Border

In Russia 6 people from the "Action Stop the Death Clouds" in Northern Norway chained themselves to the railroad connected to the nikel factory in Nikel in the middle of February. The factory in Nikel releases enormous amounts of poisonous sulphur every year.

This action was organised as an environmental joint venture together with five environmental activists from Russia. The chain action took place at the railroad near the factory and the actionists were immediately arrested. They were registered and later on they were released. Their purpose was to stop the train transporting material for the factory.

This is the second time environmental activists from Northern Norway take action aganist Nikel.

US Navy Prepared to Hide Nuclear Accidents in Foreign Ports

A secret US Navy document instructs commanders that they don´t necessarily need to contact all the relevant authorities, like foreign governments, when a nuclear powered vessel has an accident in a foreign port. This violates the "Standard Statement" of assurance offered by the US government to any foreign government which hosts a visit by a nuclear powered warship.

Brought To Light

The document, **"OPNAVINST 3040.5B"** Nuclear reactor and radiological accidents; procedures and reporting requirements for", is issued by the Chief of Naval Operations and is labelled **"For Official Use Only Special Handling Required, Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals".** A copy has been submitted to the New Zealand Special Committee on Nuclear Propulsion by a local academic, Dr. Peter R. Wills.

Official Assurances Nonsense

Dr. Peter Wills says that the document makes nonsense of the assurances made by the US government in the **"Standard Statement on the operation of US Nuclear Powered Warships in Foreign Ports"**, another document which the US government refuses to release to the public. One of the assurances offered in the Standard Statement says **"the appropriate authorities of the host government will be notified immediately in the event of an accident involving the reactor of the warship during a port visit".**

Emergency Action - General Guidelines

However, the Navy Instruction leaves commanders free to use their **"judgment as to the nature and extent of an accident"** and tells them that "Emergency Action Levels" should be used only as **"general guidelines"**. If a commander judges that panic a stoppage of vital services may have more serious consequences than exceeding specified levels of public exposure to radiation, then the civilian authorities need not necessarily be notified. "Public reaction" is noted as a specific factor for consideration in relation to deciding what actions should be taken when Emergency Action Levels are exceeded. The document expresses concern about public reaction in the event of even a minor accident and the serious impact that this could have on the operation of US Navy nuclear powered warship throughout the world.

Secret Plans

The US Atomic Energy Act forbids officials from discussing information about nuclear accident contingency planning, and the US Navy refuses to release any details of plans to deal with a nuclear reactor accident. After conducting a three-year enquiry, the Australian Senate concluded that "*there is a total lack of knowledge of the contingency procedures that the US authorities would implement in the event of a reactor incident*". It is precisely this information which Dr. Wills has made available to the New Zealand government-appointed committee.

More Secret than Spying

Before a nuclear powered warship is allowed to visit a foreign port, the Chief of Naval Operations makes a "reactor safeguards evaluation" and issues a clearance. The criteria used in making this evaluation are secret. A clearance request or notification for a nuclear powered warship visit of a foreign port must include the **"berthing or anchorage requirements, preferred and alternative"**. The title of the document specifying this requirement is classified, making it unique among approximately 2000 "Instructions" issued by the Chief of Naval Operations. "*-Whatever they are up to when they send a nuclear powered warship into a foreign port, it is much more secret than spying on foreign governments,*" said Dr. Wills.

When it comes to developing accident contingency planning, the Navy will not co-operate with local authorities. There is greater concern that events which have international implications or which are likely to give rise to inquires by the public or press should be reported promptly to higher authorities within the Navy.

> ***–The Navy may determine that no public notification is necessary in the event of an accident.***

No Public Notification Necessary

In the event of an accident, the release of information would be limited to that required for public safety, and there would be no discussion of the apparent reasons for the accident. In any case , a loss of radioactivity from a warship does not constitute a "radiological accident" until projected public exposure to radiation reaches some specified limit. The Navy may determine that no public notification is necessary in the event of an accident. In such a case the government hosting a visiting nuclear powered warship is unlikely to be informed either. Information may be passed on later from the Chief of Naval Operations in Washington.

If it is judged that immediate protective actions are recommended for the local population, ships' captains are authorised to issue notification to civil authorities and to offer an assurance that every possible precaution has been or is being taken to reduce the potential hazard to a minimum. However, notification is more likely to come later from a Fleet Commander.

At the first sign of an accident, radioactivity surveys would be ordered by the captain within the ship and the immediate vicinity of the ship. On this basis he would assess whether or not, in his view, an "accident situation" existed. If the situation was defined to be an accident, the captain would notify his superiors and dispatch a radiological monitoring team ashore to survey the downwind situation. Assistance would be requested from nearby, if it was available, and once results of the onshore monitoring became available, they would be reported to an "Area Commander" at Fleet Headquarters. It is the responsibility of the Area Commander to arrange for a radiological assistance team to be dispatched, but this would not be done until he had decided that an accident

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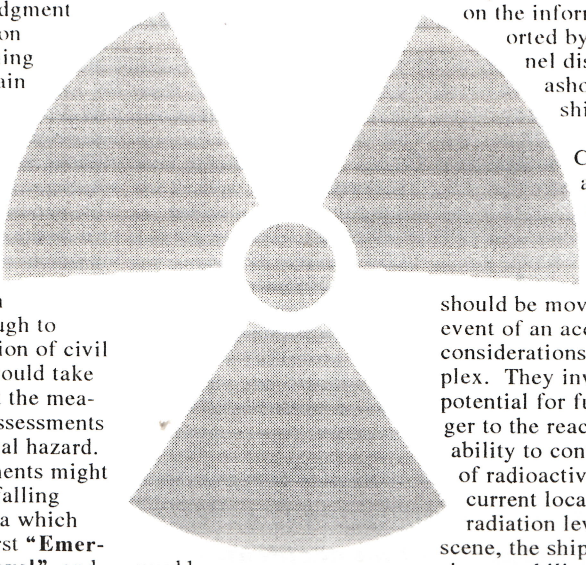

situation actually existed. This judgment would be based on information coming in from the captain of the stricken warship.

Action to protect the public would not be taken until it was determined that the situation was serious enough to require notification of civil authorities. It would take time to carry out the measurements and assessments of the radiological hazard. Initial measurements might produce results falling below the criteria which determine the first **"Emergency Action Level"**, and the civilian authorities would receive no immediate notification. Only after these criteria were exceeded could the public expect noti-fication of the accident condition. In a remote port where Navy off-hull monitoring is not available from a nuclear support organisation, all of the measurements would have to be made by ship´s crew, many of whom may be absent on shore-leave.

Beyond the actions which a ship´s captain could take to monitor an control an accident situation, the mobilisation of personnel and the co-ordination of resources would be directed from an **"emergency control centre"** set up by designated Area Commander. The Navy document specifies that it is from this remote location, rather than the accident scene, that "decisions are made, results of radioactivity and radiation surveys are evaluated, and communications with off-site authorities and other commanders are conducted". The Area Commander would assess the radiation dose the public is likely to receive by relying on the information reported by 15 personnel dispatched ashore from the ship.

> ***"-The standing instructions to US Navy commanders usurp the authority of those responsible for public safety and are irreconcilable with assurances offered to foreign governments in the Standard Statement,"***

The Area Commander is also responsible for deciding whether or not a ship should be moved in the event of an accident. The considerations are complex. They involve the potential for further danger to the reactor core, the ability to control release of radioactivity at the current location, the radiation levels at the scene, the ship´s propulsion capability, the population density in the surrounding area and along towing routes and the navigability of towing routes. Nevertheless, the views of local authorities would not be sought, not even to confirm that they coincide with the judgments of the US Navy.

"-The standing instructions to US Navy commanders usurp the authority of those responsible for public safety and are irreconcilable with assurances offered to foreign governments in the Standard Statement," said Dr. Wills after analysing the secret papers.

(Source: Greenleft)

15 Russian Nuclear Reactors Dumped at Sea

In the end of February Greenpeace released information confirming that 12 submarine nuclear reactors and three icebreaker reactors have been dumped in the waters off the coast of Novaya Zemlya. This is the first public disclosure that Russian submarines and their nuclear reactors were dumped in the Kara Sea.

One whole submarine, the K-27 powered by a liquid-metal cooled reactor, was dumped in the Stepovov Gulf after an accident in May 1968. Its two fuelled nuclear reactors were dumped in the same location off the southern island in 1982.

Eight reactors, three of which still contain their nuclear fuel, were dumped with sections of four accident-damaged nuclear submarines in waters just south of the K-27. The submarine sections - from the K-11, K-3 Leninski Komsomel, K-19 Hiro-shima, and one unknown - were reportedly dumped during the years 1964-65.

Five more reactors litter the seabed, including the three damaged reac-tors from the icebreaker "Lenin". Over 17,000 containers of liquid and solid radioactive waste were also dumped; the location of some 10,000 of these containers has now been made public. Novaya Zemlya, an island archipelago in the Arctic Circle used as a nuclear test site, is proving to be one of the CIS´s largest nuclear dumping grounds. The information comes from sources inside the CIS, researched by Alexander Yemelanenkov, Russian chairman of the anti-testing association "*Towards Novaya Zemlya*", and Andrei Zolotkov, a nuclear engineer aboard the "Imandra", a nuclear refuelling ship for icebreakers in Murmansk.

Brought To Light

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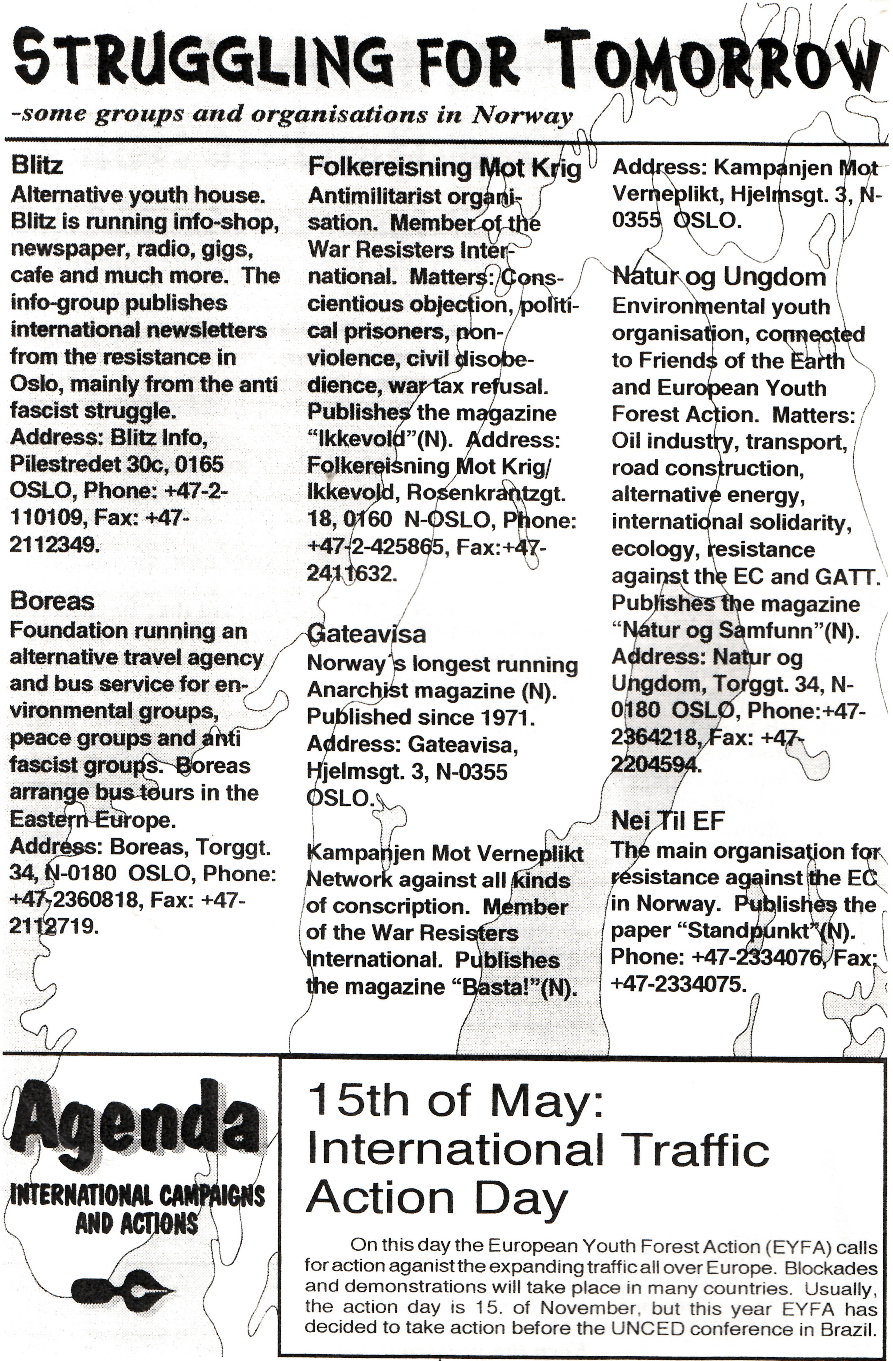
Keep the grassroot alive & kicking!



STRUGGLING FOR TOMORROW

-some groups and organisations in Norway

Blitz

Alternative youth house. Blitz is running info-shop, newspaper, radio, gigs, cafe and much more. The info-group publishes international newsletters from the resistance in Oslo, mainly from the anti fascist struggle.

Address: Blitz Info,
Pilestredet 30c, 0165
OSLO, Phone: +47-2-110109, Fax: +47-2112349.

Boreas

Foundation running an alternative travel agency and bus service for environmental groups, peace groups and anti fascist groups. Boreas arrange bus tours in the Eastern Europe.

Address: Boreas, Torggt. 34, N-0180 OSLO, Phone: +47-2360818, Fax: +47-2112719.

Folkereisning Mot Krig

Antimilitarist organisation. Member of the War Resisters International. Matters: Conscientious objection, political prisoners, non-violence, civil disobedience, war tax refusal. Publishes the magazine "Ikkevold"(N). Address: Folkereisning Mot Krig/ Ikkevold, Rosenkrantzgt. 18, 0160 N-OSLO, Phone: +47-2-425865, Fax:+47-2411632.

Gateavisa

Norway's longest running Anarchist magazine (N). Published since 1971.

Address: Gateavisa,
Hjelmsgt. 3, N-0355
OSLO.

Kampanjen Mot Verneplikt

Network against all kinds of conscription. Member of the War Resisters International. Publishes the magazine "Basta!"(N). Address: Kampanjen Mot Verneplikt, Hjelmsgt. 3, N-0355 OSLO.

Natur og Ungdom

Environmental youth organisation, connected to Friends of the Earth and European Youth Forest Action. Matters: Oil industry, transport, road construction, alternative energy, international solidarity, ecology, resistance against the EC and GATT. Publishes the magazine "Natur og Samfunn"(N).

Address: Natur og Ungdom, Torggt. 34, N-0180 OSLO, Phone:+47-2364218, Fax: +47-2204594.

Nei Til EF

The main organisation for resistance against the EC in Norway. Publishes the paper "Standpunkt"(N). Phone: +47-2334076, Fax: +47-2334075.

Agenda

INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGNS AND ACTIONS

15th of May: International Traffic Action Day

On this day the European Youth Forest Action (EYFA) calls for action aganist the expanding traffic all over Europe. Blockades and demonstrations will take place in many countries. Usually, the action day is 15. of November, but this year EYFA has decided to take action before the UNCED conference in Brazil.